

Literacy Links

Volume VII, Issue 2

December 2006

Coming Events:

- Best Practice Seminar Series Frank Baker December 6 (elementary) and 7 (middle and high school)
- South Carolina Literacy Conference Charleston Place December 11-12
- SCCTE Conference January 25-27, 2007 Kiawah Island

For information about these programs, please refer to the articles in this issue of *Literacy Links*. This issue and past issues of *Literacy Links* can be found on the State Department's web page at <http://www.ed.sc.gov>.

Inside this issue:

Best Practice Seminars	2
Opportunities for Students	2
Media Literacy News	3

Field Review Ends for 2007 English Language Arts Standards 2007

The field review for the 2007 English Language Arts Academic Standards ended late in October and the on-line survey comments have been used to revise the draft document.

The ELA Academic Standards Writing Team worked to revise the draft document and the revised document will go to the State Board of Education (SBE) for first reading December 13, 2006. It is anticipated that SBE will give final approval of the revised document February 2007.

beginning with the 2007-2008 school year. For the 2007-2008 school year, the students will be tested on the common standards from the 2002 and the 2007 documents.

Many thanks go to the educators who participated in the on-line survey and attended the informational sessions.

Should you have questions regarding the English language arts standards revision process, contact Cathy Jones at cjones@ed.sc.gov or 803-734-0790.

Teachers will use the 2007 ELA standards

Sign Up for 2007's Annual Conferences

SC Council of Teachers of English Conference

The South Carolina Council of Teachers of English (SCCTE) Conference will be held at Kiawah Island again this school year January 25-27, 2007.

This year Frank Serafini will be the morning keynote speaker and Harvey Daniels will be the afternoon keynote speaker on Friday. Frank will present a keynote on the Reading Workshop and Harvey will present Best Practices in ELA. Jim Burke will lead the Saturday morning workshop on Effective Instruction in Teaching.

As in the past, pre-conference sessions will be available. The State Department of Education will sponsor a session on the 2007 ELA Academic Standards for middle and high school teachers presented by the Office of Curriculum and Standards and the Office of Assessment. The

Office of High School Redesign is also sponsoring a pre-conference SAT workshop. In this SAT workshop, Bill Pell, who has been in education for over thirty years, will present.

For conference registration and lodging information, visit the SCCTE webpage at <http://www.sccte.org>.

SCIRA's Annual Conference

The SCIRA 32nd Annual Conference will be held February 15-17, 2007, at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center.

A pre-conference session will start the conference on Thursday. The Office of Curriculum and Standards is sponsoring Bruch Morgan for this pre-conference session.

Steven Layne, author of *T is for Teachers* and other books, will be the Thursday night keynote

speaker. Linda Hoyt will be the Friday keynote speaker and brain researcher Marcia Tate will speak Saturday morning.

The luncheon speakers are Betsy and Ted Lewin, Kathryn Lasky, and Mary Alice Monroe.

In addition to the conference information, be sure to check the SCIRA Web site at www.scira.org for membership application and applications for wonderful grants and scholarships.

More announcements about authors and speakers, hotel information, and registration information will be posted to the SCIRA Website at <http://www.scira.org>.

Best Practice Seminars Continue

A series of seminars highlighting best practices is being offered to South Carolina K-12 educators by the Office of Curriculum and Standards and the South Carolina International Reading Association (SCIRA).

The December sessions feature South Carolina's media literacy expert, Frank Baker. Space is available for both the elementary and middle and high school sessions. Frank's sessions help teachers meet the needs of their students as media be-

comes a larger part of the students' lives.

Educators are encouraged to register as soon as possible. The Carl Anderson seminar in January is full and the Bruce Morgan and Janet Angelillo seminars are filling fast. Registration information is at the end of this newsletter.

If you have questions regarding your registration, contact Judy Redman at jredman@comporium.net. If you

have questions about the topics or presenters, contact Caroline Savage at csavage@ed.sc.gov or 803-734-4770.

In the event of inclement weather in the Columbia area, please call 803-734-4770 after 6:00 p.m. the day prior to the session for cancellation information.

Date	Presenter	Audience	Topic
December 6, 2006	Frank Baker	Elementary	<i>Critical Thinking About Media Messages—Media Literacy: One of the 21st Century Literacy Skills</i>
December 7, 2006	Frank Baker	Middle/High School	<i>Critical Thinking About Media Messages—Media Literacy: One of the 21st Century Literacy Skills</i>
January 11, 2007	Carl Anderson	Elementary/ Middle	<i>How's It Going? Conferencing With Students</i>
February 14, 2007	Bruce Morgan	Elementary/ Middle	<i>Writing Through the 'Tween Years</i>
March 1, 2007	Janet Angelillo	Elementary/Middle	<i>A Fresh Approach to Teaching Punctuation: Helping Writers Use Conventions with Precision and Purpose</i>
March 20, 2007	Sharon Kazee	All Levels	<i>Interdisciplinary Connections and the Arts</i>
April 26, 2007	Wendy Hoffer	Middle/High School	<i>Inquiry for Everyone!</i>

Opportunities and Resources for Students

River of Words

The South Carolina Center for the Book is proud to partner with the Library of Congress and the River of Words foundation to bring the River of Words contest to students in South Carolina. River of Words is a free, international poetry and art contest for youth on the theme of watersheds. The contest is designed to help youth explore the natural and cultural history of the place they live and to express, through poetry and art, what they discover.

The contest is open to any student in South Carolina from 5-19 years of age. Students may enter on their own or as part of a group (classroom, scout troop, etc.)

The deadline for entries is February 15, 2007. For more information about the contest and the entry form, visit <http://www.riverofwords.org>. For questions or additional information, contact Theresa Wallace at tjwal-lace@schumanities.org or 803-771-2477.

Early Math and Science Donation

Bruce Larkin, the published author of over five hundred early children's books, including the extremely popular Larkin's Little

Readers Series, has created special "Books from Bruce" collections containing math and science books for kindergarten and first grade students.

Go to <http://www.wilbooks.com> for more information.

Four Books for the Price of One

Wilbooks is addressing the serious problem of the cost of soft cover books by making books available at prices that will allow schools to obtain more of the reading resources they desperately need.

For more information, go to "State Specials" at <http://www.wilbooks.com>.

Wilbooks Accepting Manuscripts

Wilbooks is currently accepting manuscripts from professional educators. If you have a book or book idea for K-3 students, go to <http://www.wilbooks.com>. Do not send any manuscripts to Wilbooks until you have been contacted by a company representative. We are accepting all genres, but are particularly interested in nonfiction titles.

Making Media Literacy a Part of the ELA Classroom

By Frank Baker
Media Educator

Online Media Literacy Course

Media Literacy at the graduate level will once more be offered as an only three credit hour course by Appalachian State University in Spring 2007. The class runs from early January until the end of April. Students log on at their own convenience each week, responding to readings, posts from the instructor Dr. David Considine, other student posts, and assigned clips/screening.

More information about the class, including testimonials from previous students, can be found at the website: <http://www.ci.appstate.edu/programs/edmedia/medialit>.

Books for Teachers and Students

teachingmedialiteracy.com—A Web Link Guide to Resources and Activities (November 2006)
Publisher website: <http://store.tcpress.com/0807747440.shtml>.

Fact Finders: Media Literacy (six books) for grades 3-5
Publisher: Capstone Press (January 2007)
The books cover everything from movies to television, music, magazines, and video-games—all topics of interest to this age group. Link to more information: http://www.frankwbaker.com/capstone_media_literacy.htm.

Reading The Media: Media Literacy in High School English (November 2006)
This book provides the first empirical evidence of the impact of media literacy on the academic achievement of adolescents. Publisher website: <http://store.tcpress.com/0807747386.shtml>.

Media Literacy Makes for Critical Thinkers
Read this essay written by a school library media specialist from Colorado in the October issue of "Cable In The Classroom" magazine.

Iconic WWII Photo Subject of Film

Can a single photograph move Americans to react? One photograph did. During World War II, the black and white photo taken by Joe Rosenthal showing American soldiers raising the American flag at Iwo Jima, became a symbol of heroism and bravery for Americans back home. The

incident, and the soldiers involved, is the subject of a new film *Flags of Our Fathers*.

To see original images, go to <http://www.iwojima.com/raising/raisingb.htm>. The film website is <http://www.flagsfourfathers.com>.

Lesson Plans: Good Night, and Good Luck—Edward R. Murrow

A 1954 CBS broadcast of "See It Now" focused on journalist Edward R. Murrow's challenge to Senator Joseph McCarthy, which is generally credited with having brought down the Senator's communist witch hunt. This period in American history is the focus of the film *Good Night, and Good Luck* and is now available in DVD. For teachers who may use the film in their English, social studies, or journalism courses, the Radio-TV-News Directors' Association has created an extensive teacher's guide with resources and readings. You can find this resource at <http://www.rtndf.org/hsj/gngl/gngl.shtml>.

Request for Proposals: 2007 National Media Education Conference and Research Summit

The AMLA will host the biannual National Media Education Conference (NMEC) on June 23-27, 2007, in St. Louis. The conference theme will be Exploring Media Literacy in the 21st Century. As part of the conference, the AMLA will host the first-ever Media Literacy Education Research Summit on June 23-24. This groundbreaking event will provide an opportunity for researchers representing a wide range of disciplines to share and discuss their work. The AMLA has posted request for proposals for both the National Media Education Conference and the Research Summit on <http://www.amlainfo.org>.

If you are interested in receiving more information on NMEC '07, please contact Conference Chair Amy Jensen at amy_p_jenson@byu.edu. If you are interested in learning more about and/or volunteering for one of the Research Summit's organizing committees, please contact Marilyn Cohen, College of Education, University of Washington (macohen@u.washington.edu) or Renee Cherow O-Leary, Teachers College, Columbia University

(renee21stcentury@yahoo.com).

New Curriculum Recommends Using Foreign Films in Instruction

The program, Journeys in Film, provides lesson plans that tie the films to core subjects such as social studies, math, science, and language arts. In addition, students gain the opportunity to experience cultures and locations from around the globe. The program can be modified for both older and younger students. Visit <http://journeysinfilm.org> for more information.

Introducing Video Production Into the ELA Classroom

Have you ever thought about using a video camera in your ELA classroom? Now that "non-print texts" are part of the ELA standards, it is important not only to teach students how to analyze media texts, but also how to produce them. Your students can create scripts, storyboards, or videos. And they can consider producing Public Service Announcements, Political Campaign Advertisements, short scripts or short form videos. You can download this resource at <http://www.schooltorque.com/index3.html>. Additional resources on video and television production can be found at <http://www.frankwbaker.com/tvp.htm> (this page also includes recommended student and teacher texts and periodicals for your school library media specialist to consider acquiring).

Teaching About Holiday Toy Advertising and Techniques of Persuasion

Yes, it is that time of year again: when cable and network TV will become awash in the advertising of holiday toys. This is a perfect time to pop in a video (or program that DVR or TiVO) and record a sample to use in the classroom. What do you want your students to know about toy ads? I have created a resource Website that you might want to consider using. It includes a Toy Analysis Worksheet that will help your students identify both the production and persuasion techniques used by toy ad producers. You can find this resource at <http://frankwbaker.com/toys.htm>.

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SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF
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The Office of Curriculum and Standards provides statewide leadership and services to schools and districts to ensure the implementation of grade-level standards-based instruction for all students.

We accomplish this by:

- developing and revising academic standards and expanding support materials;
- promoting the use of effective evidence-based instructional practices by schools and districts; and
- facilitating the implementation of programs, projects, grants, and activities that support standards-based instruction

Literacy Links is published by the
Office of Curriculum and Standards.

The newsletter will be posted to the Office of Curriculum and Standards and the English language arts Web pages the first week of every other month.

The November issue has been moved to December, so the next issue will be published in February.

If you have questions about *Literacy Links* or have a comment or concern, please contact Allison Norwood at anorwood@ed.sc.gov or 803-734-2469.

**“If you don’t have the
time to read, you don’t
have the time or the tools
to write.”**

Stephen King

English Language Arts Staff

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Best Practice Seminar Series 2006-2007 Registration Form

A series of seminars highlighting best practices will be offered during the 2006-2007 school year to South Carolina K-12 educators by the Office of Curriculum and Standards at the State Department of Education (SDE) and the South Carolina Council of the International Reading Association (SCIRA). A schedule of the sessions, dates, audiences, general topics, and locations is included with this registration form. Each session will be held in Columbia from 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided. **Please use this form to register for any sessions you are interested in attending.**

Instructions: To register for any of these seminars, please complete this form and mail it and a **check made payable to SCIRA for \$50.00 for each session for which you are registering** to Judy Redman at Post Office Box 10101, Rock Hill, South Carolina 29731. Payment is due with registration. No purchase orders will be accepted. Participation will be on a first-come with check, first-served basis. A confirmation e-mail will be sent to registrants. Unless you receive a confirmation, do not consider yourself registered. Directions to the session locations will be posted to the State Department of Education website. **If you have any questions concerning your registration, please contact Judy Redman at jredman@comporium.net or fax at 803-329-1952. If you have any questions concerning the seminar, contact Caroline Savage at 803-734-4470 or csavage@ed.sc.gov.**

Please indicate with an "X", beside the SESSION column, the session you wish to attend.

Session	X	Session Date	Presenter	Deadline	Location
Session 1		September 20, 2006	Quality Quinn	September 8, 2006	The Cotton House
Session 2		October 24, 2006	Carol Jago	October 9, 2006	Seawell's
Session 3		November 17, 2006	Tim Rasinski	November 1, 2006	Columbia Conference Center
Session 4		November 29, 2006	Joyce VanTassel - Baska	November 10, 2006	Brookland Baptist Conference Center
Session 5		December 6, 2006	Frank Baker	November 20, 2006	Brookland Baptist Conference Center
Session 6		December 7, 2006	Frank Baker	November 20, 2006	Brookland Baptist Conference Center
Session 7		January 11, 2007	Carl Anderson	December 18, 2006	Columbia Conference Center
Session 8		February 14, 2007	Bruce Morgan	January 29, 2007	Columbia Conference Center
Session 9		March 1, 2007	Janet Angelillo	February 19, 2007	Columbia Conference Center
Session 10		March 20, 2007	Sharon Kazee	March 5, 2007	Brookland Baptist Conference Center
Session 11		April 26, 2007	Wendy Hoffer	April 9, 2007	SC Archives and History Center

Please provide the following information.

Name _____

Position/Content Area _____ Grade _____

District _____ School _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone (_____) _____ Fax (_____) _____

School E-mail _____

Home Street Address _____

2006-2007 Best Practice Seminar Series

Presenter	Topic	Audience
Quality Quinn	Formative Assessment and Differentiation: The Missing Link After third grade, the achievement gap with minorities, second language learners, and low-income students widens substantially. This session will examine literacy's role in bridging this gap through formative assessment and differentiation. How can administrators and teachers in all content areas work together to prepare for early success and keep students from falling further behind each year?	All Levels Administrator Strand
Carol Jago	Cohesive Writing: Handling the Paper Load through Improved Student Writing This session offers practical help with teaching students to write effective essays both on demand and through revision. Participants will learn how to help students focus, organize, and develop their ideas for writing. Particular emphasis will be given to revision strategies. The workshop will also offer practical techniques for handling the paper load.	Middle/ High School
Tim Rasinski	Working with Struggling Readers: Effective and Engaging Strategies that Work Based on his work with struggling readers, Dr. Rasinski will share strategies that have been proven to help students who find learning to read difficult. Strategies in the areas of phonics, vocabulary, reading fluency, and reading comprehension appropriate for any content area will be shared.	All Levels
Joyce Van Tassel-Baska	Differentiation and Working With the Accelerated Learner in All Classrooms This session will emphasize successful strategies for working with advanced learners in classrooms at all grade levels. It will provide key teaching and learning models that can be applied to meet differentiation requirements for this population, using a variety of curriculum. Strategies for differentiating curriculum will also be featured along with criteria for selecting reading materials.	All Levels Administrator Strand
Frank Baker	Critical Thinking About Media Messages—Media Literacy: A 21st Century Literacy Skill Many of our young people are media savvy, but they are not media literate. Frank Baker helps participants understand "media literacy" and its place in all content area standards. What are the skills you need in order to help your students be critical thinkers and viewers in the 21st century?	Elementary
Frank Baker	Critical Thinking About Media Messages—Media Literacy: A 21st Century Literacy Skill Many of our young people are media savvy, but they are not media literate. Frank Baker helps participants understand "media literacy" and its place in all content area standards. What are the skills you need in order to help your students be critical thinkers and viewers in the 21st century?	Middle/ High School
Carl Anderson	How's It Going? Conferencing With Students Anderson will lead participants through the challenging but essential terrains of learning to confer with students. This session will examine the teacher's role in conferences, strategies for teaching students to take an active role, ways to weave text, mini-lessons, classroom management strategies, and responses to the most frequently asked questions about conferring.	Elementary/ Middle
Bruce Morgan	Writing Through the 'Tween Years Bruce Morgan will share how teachers can get back to the joys of teaching writing in a literature-rich, thoughtful environment. Strategies will be shared on how to develop a writing program that involves integrating insights from reading strategy instruction with a renewed emphasis on the basics of writers' workshop: student choice, teacher modeling, revision, and using quality mentor texts.	Elementary/ Middle
Janet Angelillo	A Fresh Approach to Teaching Punctuation: Helping Writers Use Conventions with Precision and Purpose Through mini-lessons, partner and small-group activities, students catch on to the power of punctuation by looking at how authors use it and by noticing it in advertising, newspapers, and other kinds of text. Janet Angelillo will share ideas for using a variety of text and more for learning about punctuation.	Elementary/ Middle
Sharon Kazee	Interdisciplinary Connections and the Arts This session will focus on making interdisciplinary connections through arts integration. Topics will include defining arts integration, exploring current research, accessing resources, and looking at sample units and lessons that effectively integrate the arts with other academic areas. Strategies will be shared to make these connections through active participation.	All Levels
Wendy Hoffer	Inquiry for Everyone! Evoke students' curiosity. Challenge students' thinking. Organize students' learning. Assess students' growth. This session will touch on each of these essential building blocks to successful inquiry-based learning experiences across content areas.	Middle/ High School